

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
SPARTANBURG DIVISION

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, * CRIMINAL NO. 8:20-CR-452
* FEBRUARY 08, 2022 2:02 P.M.
Plaintiff, * EXCERPT OF SENTENCING HEARING
*
vs. *
*
JOHN TOWERY, * Before:
* HONORABLE DONALD C. COGGINS, JR.
* UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
Defendant. * DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
* * * * *

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff: CARRIE SHERARD, AUSA
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District of South Carolina
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Greenville, SC 29601

For Defendant John Towery:

RAME CAMPBELL, ESQUIRE
Rame Campbell Law Firm
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Court Reporter: Michele E. Becker, RMR, CRR, RPR
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Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography,
transcript produced by computer.

Michele E. Becker, RMR, CRR, RPR
United States District Court
District of South Carolina

1 (Court convened at 2:01 p.m.)

2 (Proceedings were held but not transcribed at this time.)

3 **MR. CAMPBELL:** Your Honor, this is Mr. Barry Owens.

4 **THE COURT:** All right. Mr. Owens, if you'll come up
5 just right between the tables will be fine. We've got a
6 handheld mic for you, and I'm going to let the clerk swear you
7 in and then I'll be happy to hear from you.

8 **THE CLERK:** Sir, please raise your right hand and
9 state your name for the record.

10 **THE WITNESS:** Barry Owens.

11 (Whereupon, the witness is duly sworn on oath.)

12 **THE WITNESS:** Yes, ma'am. I do.

13 **THE COURT:** Thank you, sir.

14 **THE WITNESS:** Your Honor, thank you for giving me the
15 opportunity to address you on behalf of John. I've known John
16 at least 13 years, and I'm also his pastor. I understand that
17 sin has a price. I don't think this merely as people has
18 displayed. Sin comes in subtle, comes in slow. It doesn't
19 come on with all these flames and red bells and whistles just
20 like the madam here said. But John also has given his heart
21 to Christ. And that's one of the most important decisions
22 that he could have ever made within the last couple of months.
23 I'm not here to tell you, obviously, what he done was right.
24 He's going to have to have an account for that. But
25 thankfully we've got a Christ who has forgiven him and saved

1 his soul. We've seen such a difference in John since he's
2 been coming to our church. He's been around my children
3 multiple times, and matter of fact he was at the hospital
4 whenever my children were born, each and every one of them.
5 And I just ask the Court to have mercy on him today. Thank
6 you, Your Honor.

7 **THE COURT:** Thank you, sir.

8 (Proceedings were held but not transcribed at this time.)

9 (Court recessed at 3:12 p.m.)

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11 **CERTIFICATE**

12 I, Michele E. Becker, certify that the foregoing is
13 a correct transcript from the record of proceedings
14 in the above-entitled matter.

15
16 /s/ Michele E. Becker Date: 07/08/2022
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Michele E. Becker, RMR, CRR, RPR
United States District Court
District of South Carolina